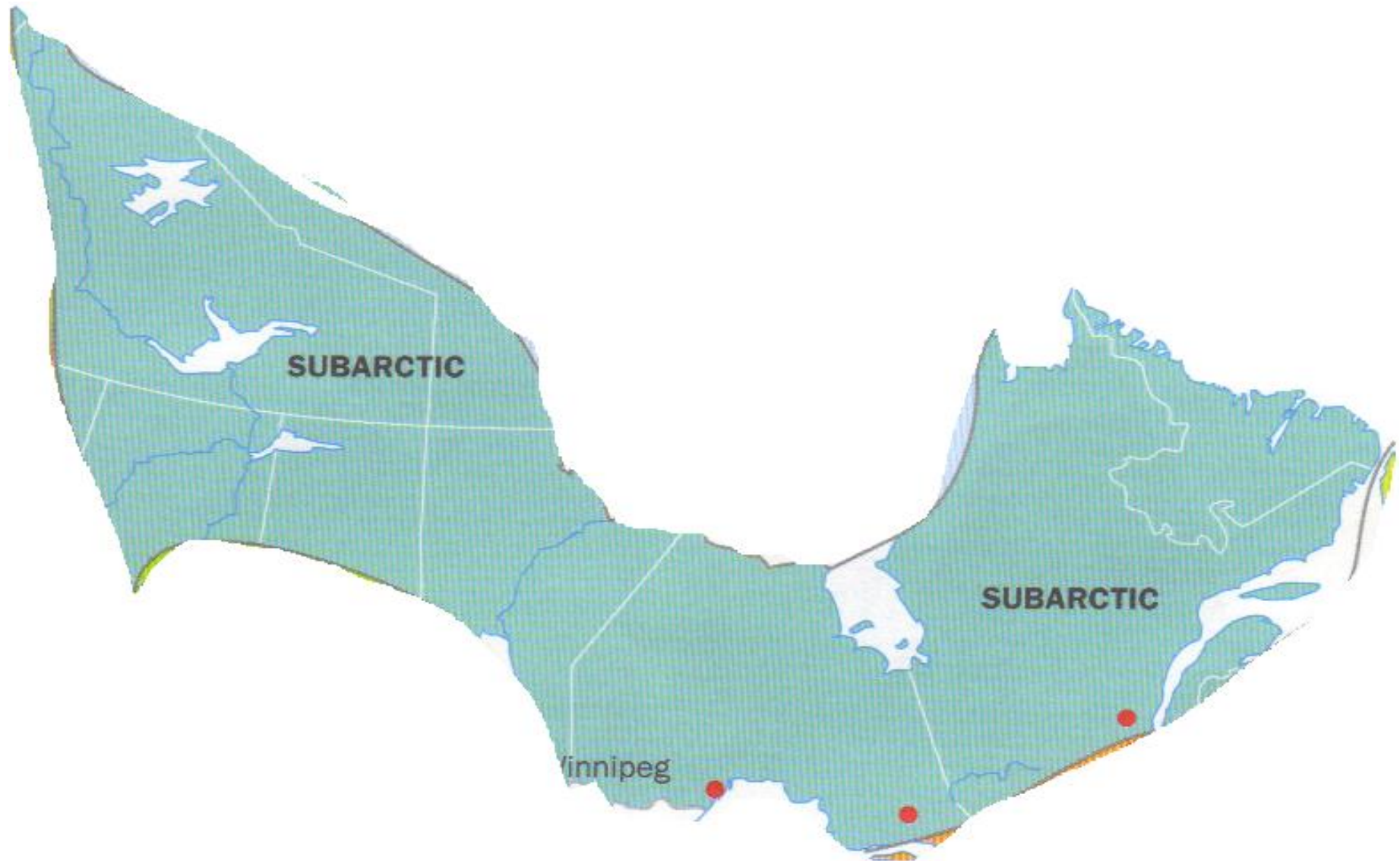


1.6 Understanding Climate Patterns- Subarctic



Subarctic



Subarctic Climate

- The climate of the Subarctic sub-region is continental and cold-temperate with moist, short, cool summers and long, cold winters.
- In winter, temperatures can drop to $-40\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$
- In summer, the temperature may exceed $+30\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$

Subarctic Climate

- However, the summers are short; no more than three months of the year (but at least one month) with an average temperature of 10 °C



Subarctic Climate

- The day length is quite long with June days lasting 18.8 hrs
- Subarctic regions are often characterized by taiga forest vegetation



Subarctic Climate

- soils remain too saturated almost throughout the year to sustain *any* tree growth
- the dominant vegetation is a peaty herbland dominated by grasses and sedges



Subarctic Climate

- Except for those areas adjacent to warm ocean currents, there is almost always continuous permafrost due to the very cold winters
- This means that building in most subarctic regions is very difficult and expensive: cities are very few

Subarctic Climate

- An important consequence is that transportation tends to be restricted to "bush" planes, helicopters and, in summer, river boats.

Subarctic Animals- Dall Sheep

- White to grayish coloured hollow fur.
- They have large curling horns
- They are hoofed animals



Subarctic Animals- Dall Sheep

- This helps them get around the uneven ground of the mountains where they live
- Dall sheep are herbivores, in the summer when food is readily available they eat grass, leaves and twigs, herbs, and shoots
- In the winter lichen and moss are eaten.

Subarctic Animals- Moose

- Have a dark brown coat, white legs, hooved feet, and a dewlap, which is the loose skin in the chin
- Males have over-sized antlers that shed and re-grow every year



Subarctic Animals- Moose

- The moose is also an herbivore and eats 40 pounds of food a day
- In the summer they eat willow, birch, and aspen twigs
- They love to eat water plants such as lilly and pond weeds

Subarctic Animals- Moose

- In the winter months moose eat the needle leaves of coniferous forest.

Subarctic Animals- Red Deer

- The male has prominent antlers that shed every year.
- In the fall, red deer grow a thicker coat of hair and some males grow neck manes



Subarctic Animals- Red Deer

- Another herbivore, red deer eat grass and the leaves of shrubs and trees. Bark is eaten in the winter.

Subarctic Animals- Other Animals

- Russian Flying Squirrel



- Short Tailed Mongoose



- American Lynx

